

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

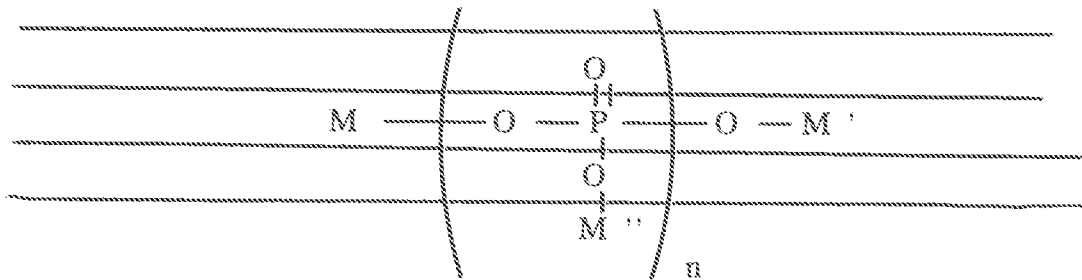
1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method of treating dental erosion comprising:

(a) a physician or dental professional directing a human, in need thereof due to loss or softening of tooth enamel and its demineralization caused by direct action of acid on the tooth, to orally administer an effective amount of a carbonated beverage composition comprising citric acid and having a pH from about 2.7 ~~2~~ to about 3.5 ~~4.5~~ at least once daily for the purpose of treating dental erosion;

(b) the human ingests the beverage composition based on such direction for the purpose of treating said dental erosion;

wherein the beverage composition comprises sodium hexametaphosphate:



and wherein the beverage composition is substantially free of calcium and fluoride; and
wherein the beverage composition further comprises a sweetener.

24-31. (Cancelled)